

COL. WILSON'S RECORD IN EARLY DAYS TELLS INTERESTING STORY

Since the death of Colonel J. W. Wilson in Prescott on Friday many facts concerning his romantic and adventurous life which have hitherto been unknown to any excepting the colonel's most intimate friends are coming to light. There are probably not more than a dozen persons in Arizona today who know that Colonel Wilson was once sentenced to be shot for killing a negro. The sentence was imposed by a military court martial shortly after the close of the Civil war.

After the war, Colonel Wilson, who had been a lieutenant colonel on the staff of Confederate General Hood, wandered into Texas seeking employment. He was made overseer of a plantation because of his ability to handle negroes.

One day Wilson gave a big black some orders which the laborer refused to carry out. The overseer thereupon ordered him to give up his team and leave the place. This the negro refused to do, and when Wilson started for him, he seized a pitchfork. Wilson would have been provoked to death had he not drawn a revolver and shot the murderous laborer dead.

An investigation was begun by the United States military authorities. There had been no eye-witnesses to the shooting except several negroes, but they told the truth in all particulars. At one time the officer conducting the investigation was ready to drop the case, but his superiors insisted that an example be made of Wilson. A court-martial was empaneled, the overseer was convicted and sentenced to be shot.

Wilson's employer hired a lawyer, who discovered that the day before the shooting of the negro, martial law ended in Texas, the state being turned over to the civil authorities. The district attorney of the county began habeas corpus proceedings, with the result that the military was forced to give up the prisoner. Wilson was then tried under civil law and was acquitted.

Probably no one knows more about Colonel Wilson's Civil war record than Thomas F. Farish, who was a close friend of the deceased for more than a quarter of a century, and managed his campaign in 1898, when the colonel was for the first time elected delegate to congress from Arizona.

Born in Tennessee, Colonel Wilson moved to Alabama when a small boy. When he was 16 the Civil war broke out and he enlisted as a private in an Alabama regiment. During the war he was wounded six times, three bullets passing entirely through his body. He received his first wound at Shiloh. In after years he delighted to tell of an experience he had during that battle, always maintaining that it was there he received the disappointment of his life.

In the course of the first day's fighting, Wilson captured a Union soldier who had such a blanket as could not be had for love or money in the Confederate army. Wilson intended to keep that blanket for himself, but could not turn over his prisoner that day. When night came on he decided to sleep with the Union soldier, not caring much if the prisoner did get away, just so he saved the blanket. But the youth slept more soundly than he intended. In the early morning he awoke, nearly frozen. Both prisoner and blanket were gone.

The rise of Wilson from the ranks was rapid. Before the end of the war he was made a lieutenant colonel. His last battle was at Atlanta, where his valiant services won the commendations of General Hood.

Giving up his position on the Texas plantation, Colonel Wilson went to Arkansas and studied law. Before coming to Arizona he served three terms as district attorney of one of Arkansas' largest counties. He arrived in Arizona in 1887, and one of the first friends he made was Thomas E. Farish.

In the fall of 1898 Colonel Wilson was nominated by the democratic party of Arizona for delegate to congress. His republican opponent was Alexander O. Brodie, who, when nominated, was in New York recovering from a wound received in Cuba. Brodie was expected to win on his war record, but with the help of his old friend, Thomas E. Farish, whom he chose to be his campaign manager, Wilson won out by a small majority. Four years later, in 1902, he was again nominated for delegate and defeated Robert E. Morrison.

HEBREWS OBSERVE PASSOVER
NEW YORK, April 13.—The celebration of the Jewish festival of Pesach, or the Passover, begins today and will continue among the orthodox Hebrews throughout the world for eight days. This festival, which is also known as the Feast of Unleavened Bread, was instituted to commemorate the departure of the Children of Israel from Egypt, under the leadership of Moses, where they had been held in bondage for upward of 400 years. In biblical times it was deemed a most important festival, on which all men were bound to go up to Jerusalem to keep the Passover and to make their offerings in the Temple.

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WILLIAMS HAS CLOSE CALL IN AEROPLANE

His Cap Blows Off and Clogs
Up the Propeller,
Causing Fall

(Douglas International)

Aviator A. N. Williams had a miraculous escape from death today when after he had risen beautifully for a flight in his machine his cap blew off, fouled in the propeller and the machine, dipping sideways came to the earth with a crash. Beyond a few scratches and bruises Williams escaped without injury, although the fall was between fifty and a hundred feet. His machine also escaped serious injury and he will be flying again within a week.

The report that A. N. Williams would again make a flight in his Douglas made aeroplane drew a large crowd to the north of the city this morning and the sight which they saw was thrilling enough, for it was marvelous that it had not a tragic end. After the aviator had left the earth cleanly and rising steadily had flown several hundred feet with an increasing momentum it was seen to tip sideways and then dip and come rapidly to the earth. It was evident that an accident had occurred and a cloud of dust arose as the machine struck the earth. The crowd dashed to see how badly Williams was hurt and was astounded to see that he had escaped practically uninjured.

This afternoon Mr. Williams told an international representative of his experience after he had been congratulated on his good fortune. "I had started upon a flight nicely," said the aviator, "left the ground cleanly and had risen to a height of about 100 feet when my cap blew off instinctively I grabbed for it, and in so doing let go with one hand of the steering gear. The machine tilted and I felt myself slipping. I tried to right it and was making some progress, but I wished I were higher, for then I certainly could have brought it level. As it was I had to dip forward and then I saw the earth coming toward me. As the machine struck I threw myself sideways. A piece of broken woodwork was thrust nine inches into the ground close beside me, but with the exception of a few scratches and bruises I was all right." The forward plane was smashed, some woodwork damaged and the propeller broken.

REBELS ARE ACTIVE SOUTH OF DOUGLAS

Change of Program Is Noted
in the Disposition of
Forces

(Douglas International)

Once more the scene of activity in the Mexican revolution in Sonora is to be shifted, according to reports heard in this city, and which seem to be well authenticated. According to such reports Douglas is to be once more the source from which war news will emanate and immediate activities will be in this vicinity for it is said that all the forces of revolution in Sonora have been ordered to assemble just south of this city for movements of importance.

There are now said to be in Douglas twenty-one members of the rebel junta, and several of these are said to be of very high position in that body. Such a gathering cannot be without import, and developments may be expected within the next few days.

It is also said that there are seven secret service men of the United States government here, so that Uncle Sam is evidently expecting something to happen and is on the lookout. The presence of so many at this time, together with the gathering of so many prominent in the junta is certainly indicative that action of some kind is expected.

Today it is said that orders have been sent that all insurgents forces are to meet at some point south of and near Douglas, to receive orders from the junta here as to further movements in the campaign. This order is further said to be that any and that do not join in the meeting shall be considered as not connected with the revolution, but shall be considered as rebels and outlawed. It is said that when this assembling occurs there will be heavy reinforcements go to them from Douglas, and one rumor has it that a strong body of Americans has been formed to join in the movement. As sympathy with the insurrectionary movement in Mexico is very strong in Douglas it is probable that if there shall be a massing of forces in the vicinity there will also be a reinforcing movement emanating from here. It is further stated that Lopez has received and taken across the line of at least 100 guns and a quantity of ammunition.

These reports seem to be borne out by the fact that Juan Cabral and

AMENDMENT TO THE LAND LAW IS ASKED

Under the present public land laws it is required that homestead or desert entrymen shall cultivate at least forty acres of land after the first year, and continue to cultivate that amount for five years before receiving a patent from the government. A movement has been started in the valley to have the cultivation requirement reduced to twenty acres, instead of forty, as it is claimed that a homesteader cannot keep forty acres in cultivation under present conditions.

In support of this movement R. W. Eldridge, who has a homestead at Moore's Spur on the Courtland railroad, has prepared a number of petitions which are now being circulated for signatures in the valley, asking for the desired relief. The petition is addressed to the congress of the United States, and as soon as completed will be forwarded to Delegate Cameron, who has promised to do all in his power to secure the proposed amendment of the land laws.

Mr. Eldridge was in Douglas today circulating the petition and it was signed by everyone to whom it was presented, as the justice of the request is fully recognized. Mr. Moore has been on his homestead for three years and stated today that he has been able to maintain his family from the proceeds of his pastures and cultivated land. He has some cattle on the surrounding range and is also making a go of it on his homestead.

HAILED DOWN AT SUMTER.
LOS ANGELES, Cal., April 13.—To at least one citizen of Los Angeles the fiftieth anniversary of the taking of Fort Sumter recalled vivid personal recollections today. There has always been some doubt as to the identity of the man who fired the first shot in that famous fight, but there never has been a question as to the identity of the man who, on the 13th of April, 1861, lowered the American flag from over the fort in the first defeat suffered by the Union army in the civil war. The man was Lieutenant Colonel H. W. Hammer, now a resident of this city, an fifty years ago regimental quartermaster sergeant of the First Artillery, having passed his three score years and ten, Colonel Hammer is hale and hearty, and his memory in regard to the taking of Fort Sumter is wonderfully clear.

Representative A. Mitchell Palmer of Pennsylvania, the youngest member of the new Ways and Means Committee, won national fame by his speech on the Payne bill.

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We have discontinued our merchants' lunch, but will have a FREE lunch every day from eleven thirty to two thirty, Office Saloon.

VANDERLIP EXPECTS QUIET SUMMER

St. Paul.—President Vanderlip of the National City bank of New York says: "There is no dark spot in the agricultural outlook, so far as I can judge at this time. So far as I have seen—and it would be hard to go over the country more thoroughly than I have on this 11,000 mile trip—agricultural conditions are simply admirable."

"Business is quiet everywhere. Possibility of tariff revision is enough to cause business men to put on the brakes if there were nothing else ahead. It is also to be expected that business would hold back somewhat to see what the supreme court does in the important cases pending before it. It is very probable that we shall have a quiet summer."

A little quiet business isn't going to hurt us at all. It won't do us any harm to be a bit economical for a while, and it will help us to correct a number of economic mistakes. And at the end of that, if the weather is good to us, we shall take \$7,000,000,000 out of the ground."

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